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ABSTRACT

MOOs (Multi-User, Object-Oriented Environments), which were designed originally as spaces for online social interaction, are increasingly recognized today for their value as educational tools. This book brings together a diverse group of experts whose contributions help answer questions and dispel myths surrounding MOOs and their use in education. The essays are arranged in a practical sequence, beginning with the context and history of MOOs, followed by more technical essays on how to set up and administer a MOO. Subsequent essays discuss applications for MOOs in education and, finally, provide theoretical explorations of the nature of MOO communities. After a Foreword by Sherry Turkle and introduction by the Editors, the following chapters are provided: (1) "Finding One's Own in Cyberspace" (Amy Bruckman); (2) "Not Just a Game: How LambdaMOO Came To Exist and What It Did To Get Back at Me" (Pavel Curtis); (3) "How To MOO without Making a Sound: A Guide to the Virtual Communities Known as MOOs" (Jorge R. Barrios and Deanna Wilkes-Gibbs); (4) "MOO Educational Tools" (Ken Scheweller); Taking the MOO by the Horns: How To Design, Set Up, and Manage an Educational MOO" (Jan Rune Holmevik and Mark Blanchard); (6) "Day-To-Day MOO Administration and How To Survive It" (Shawn P. Wilbur); (7) "HELP! There's a MOO in this Class!" (Cynthia Haynes); (8) "At Home in the MUD: Writing Centers Learn To Wallow" (Eric Crump); (9) "Defending Your Life in MOospace: A Report from the Electronic Edge" (Dene Grigar and John F. Barber); (10) "The Play's the Thing: Theatricality and the MOO Environment" (Juli Burk); (11) "Bodies in Place: Real Politics, Real Pedagogy, and Virtual Space" (Beth Kolko); (12) "(Non)Fiction('s) Addition(s): A NarcoAnalysis of Virtual Worlds" (Diane Davis); (13) "Of MOOs, Folds, and Non-Reactionary Virtual Communities" (Victor J. Vitanza); (14) "Songs of Thy Selves: Persistence, Momentariness, Recurrence and the MOO" (Michael Joyce); and an appendix, "MOO Central: Educational, Professional, and Experimental MOOs on the Internet" (Jeffrey R. Galin). (AEF)